
SPACE ADVENTURES
SPACE ADVENTURES
presents
SPACE
TRIP TO THE
MOON
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
MAY
10¢
A CHARLTON REPRINT
NOW! man's first trip to the MOON!

SPUTNIK

The Name That Became A Household Word

When Russia launched Sputnik 1 and 2 the world held its breath. Was America sleeping while Russia worked? Were the Soviets to become the masters of Space?

No. We weren't sleeping — we are ready, and soon we will launch "The Baby Moon" then "Big Brother" and finally travel freely in Space! So now come with us as we take the

FIRST TRIP TO THE MOON

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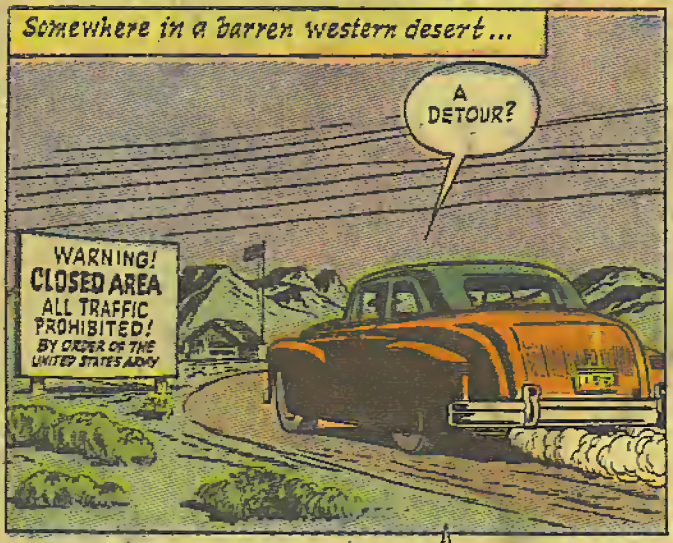
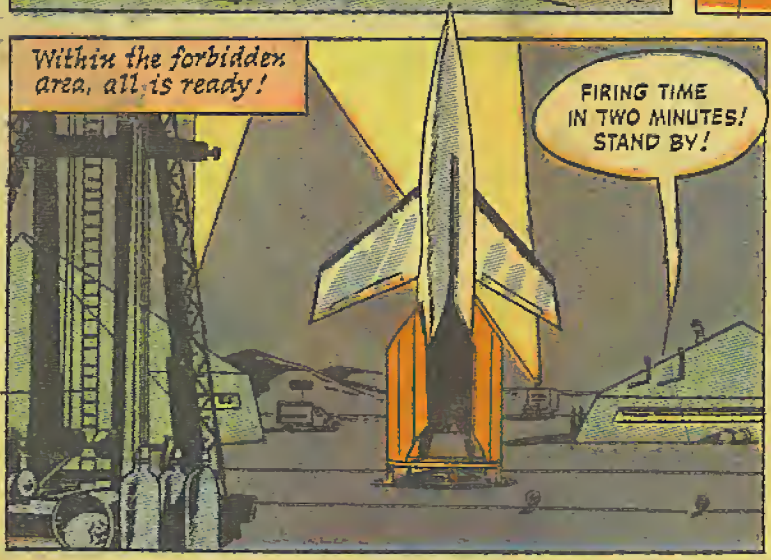
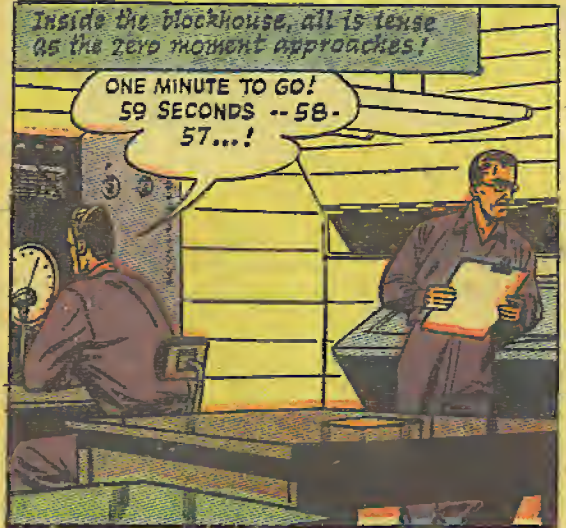
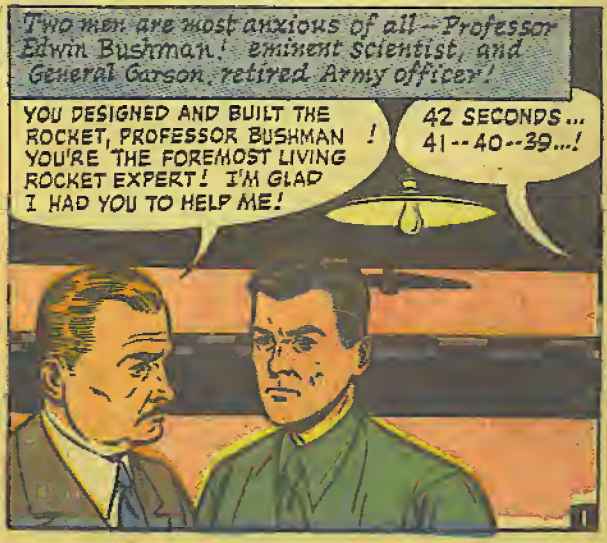
SPACE ADVENTURES









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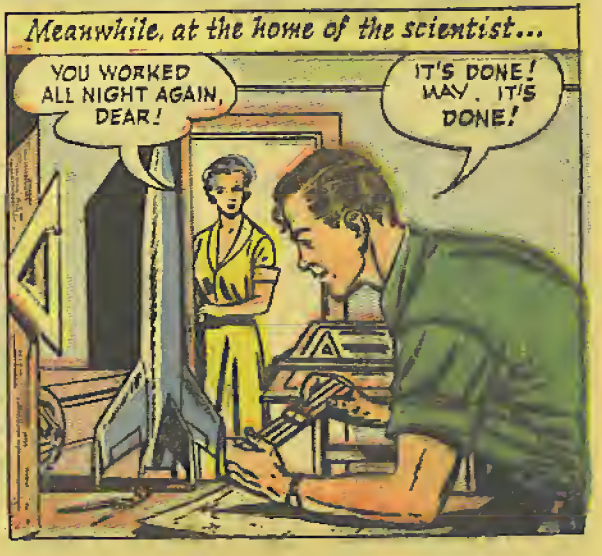

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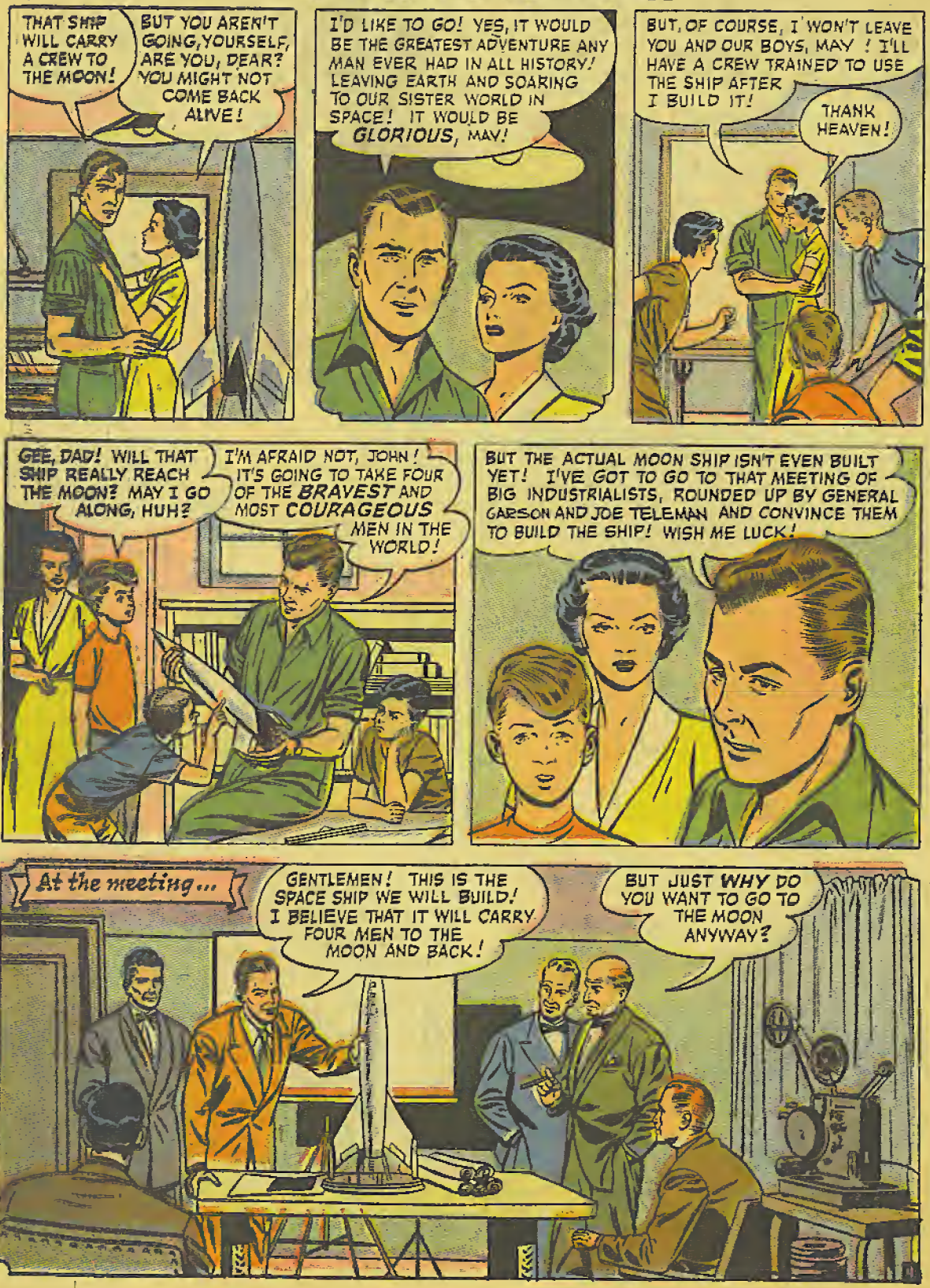

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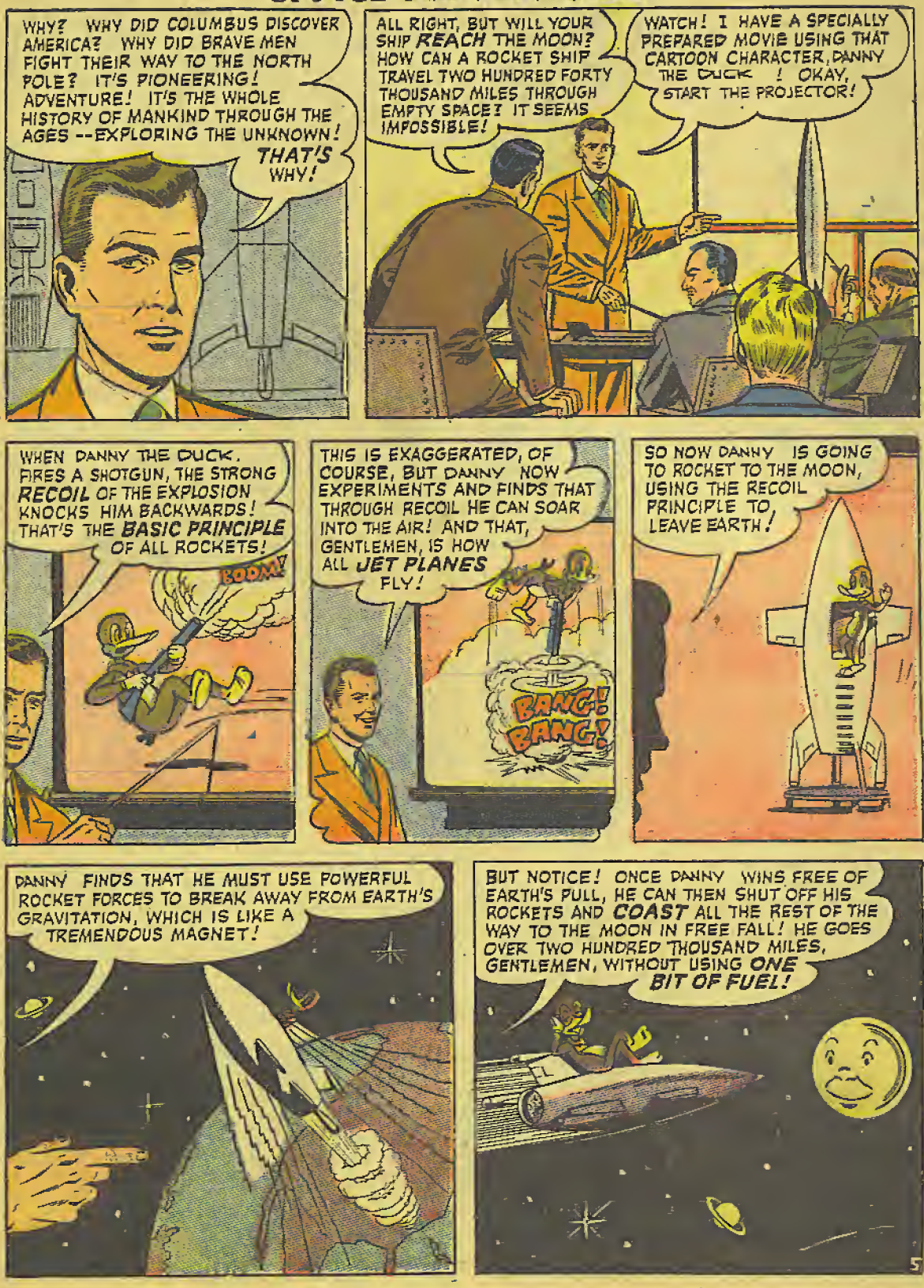
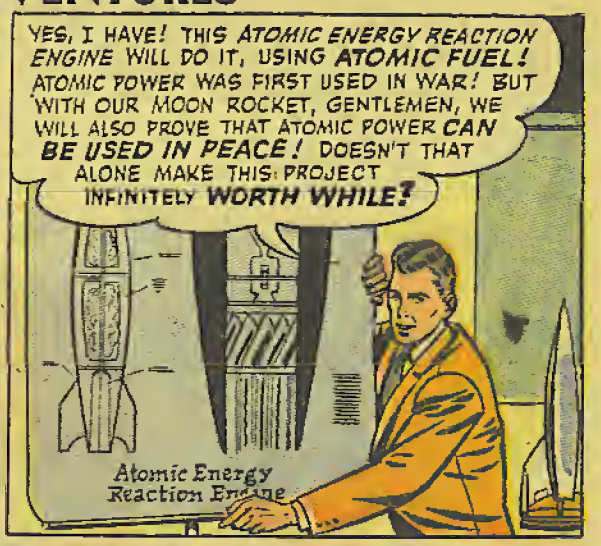
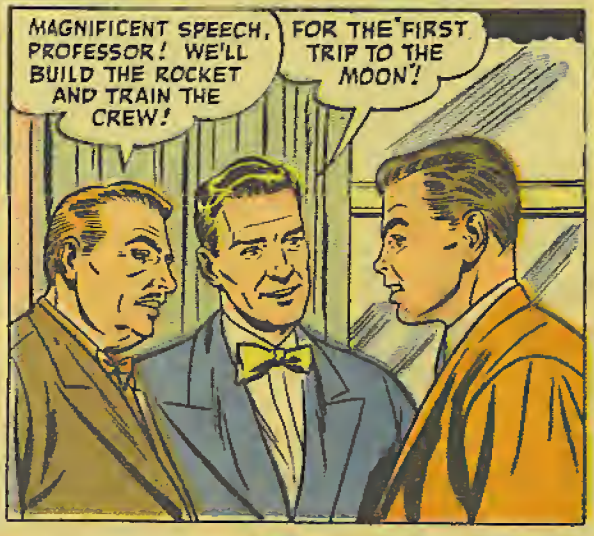
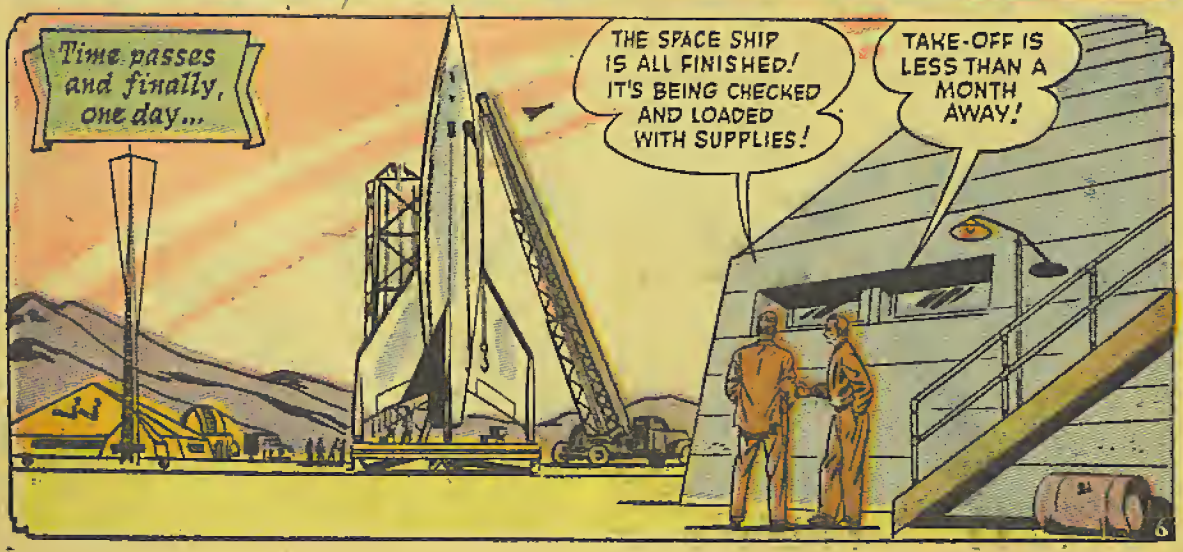



SO THAT'S WHY IT IS EASILY POSSIBLE TO REACH THE MOON! ALL YOU NEED IS A POWERFUL ENOUGH FUEL TO ESCAPE EARTH'S GRAVITY!
BUT HAVE YOU THAT FUEL, PROFESSOR?

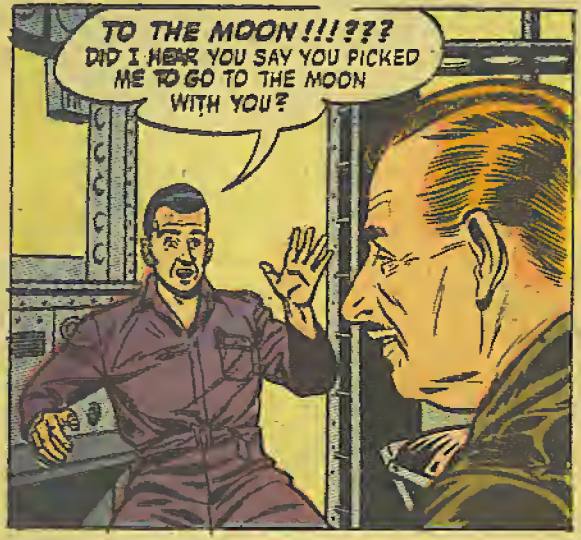

YES, I HAVE! THIS ATOMIC ENERGY REACTION ENGINE WILL DO IT, USING ATOMIC FUEL! ATOMIC POWER WAS FIRST USED IN WAR! BUT WITH OUR MOON ROCKET, GENTLEMEN, WE WILL ALSO PROVE THAT ATOMIC POWER CAN BE USED IN PEACE! DOESN'T THAT ALONE MAKE THIS PROJECT INFINITELY WORTH WHILE?
Atomic Energy Reaction Engine


YES! YOU WIN, PROFESSOR!
THANK YOU, GENTLEMEN THEN WE WILL BEGIN WORK ON THE SPACE SHIP IMMEDIATELY!

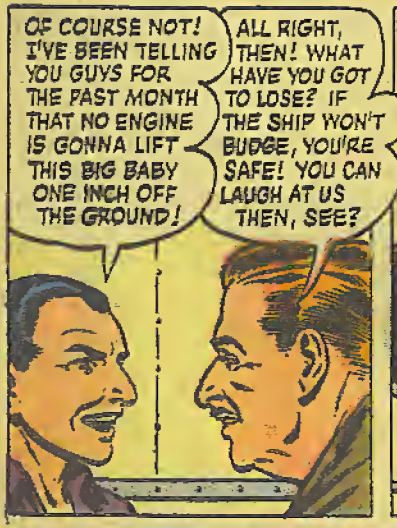

MAGNIFICENT SPEECH, PROFESSOR! WE'LL BUILD THE ROCKET AND TRAIN THE CREW!
FOR THE FIRST TRIP TO THE MOON!


Time passes and finally, one day...
THE SPACE SHIP IS ALL FINISHED! IT'S BEING CHECKED AND LOADED WITH SUPPLIES!
TAKE-OFF IS LESS THAN A MONTH AWAY!

SPACE ADVENTURES


TO THE MOON!!!???
DID I HEAR YOU SAY YOU PICKED ME TO GO TO THE MOON WITH YOU?


LET ME OUTTA HERE! HELP! I'M NOT GOING TO THE MOON! THINK I'M CRAZY OR SOMETHING?
EASY, JOE! LISTEN! DO YOU BELIEVE THIS SHIP WILL GET TO THE MOON?


OF COURSE NOT! I'VE BEEN TELLING YOU GUYS FOR THE PAST MONTH THAT NO ENGINE IS GONNA LIFT THIS BIG BABY ONE INCH OFF THE GROUND!
ALL RIGHT, THEN! WHAT HAVE YOU GOT TO LOSE? IF THE SHIP WON'T BUDGE, YOU'RE SAFE! YOU CAN LAUGH AT US THEN, SEE?


YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT! I KNOW THE SHIP WON'T MOVE, SO I'LL JOIN YOUR CREW JUST FOR LAUGHS! THE TAKE-OFF WILL BE A FIZZLE! HAW! HAW!
IT'S AGREED THEN THAT YOU'LL COME ALONG!


HOLY SMOKE! I'M PART OF THE CREW! SOMETHING TELLS ME GENERAL GARSON PULLED A SLICK ONE ON ME, LIKE SELLING ME THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE! WELL, I'VE GOT TO GO THROUGH WITH IT NOW!


Meanwhile, as a busy night wears away in preparation, Professor Bushman has his own troubles!
BUT, MAY I HAVE TO GO! THIS IS BIGGER THAN YOU OR ME OR ANYTHING!
ALL RIGHT, DEAR! OF COURSE I WON'T STOP YOU! BUT PLEASE COME BACK!


PLEASE COME BACK!

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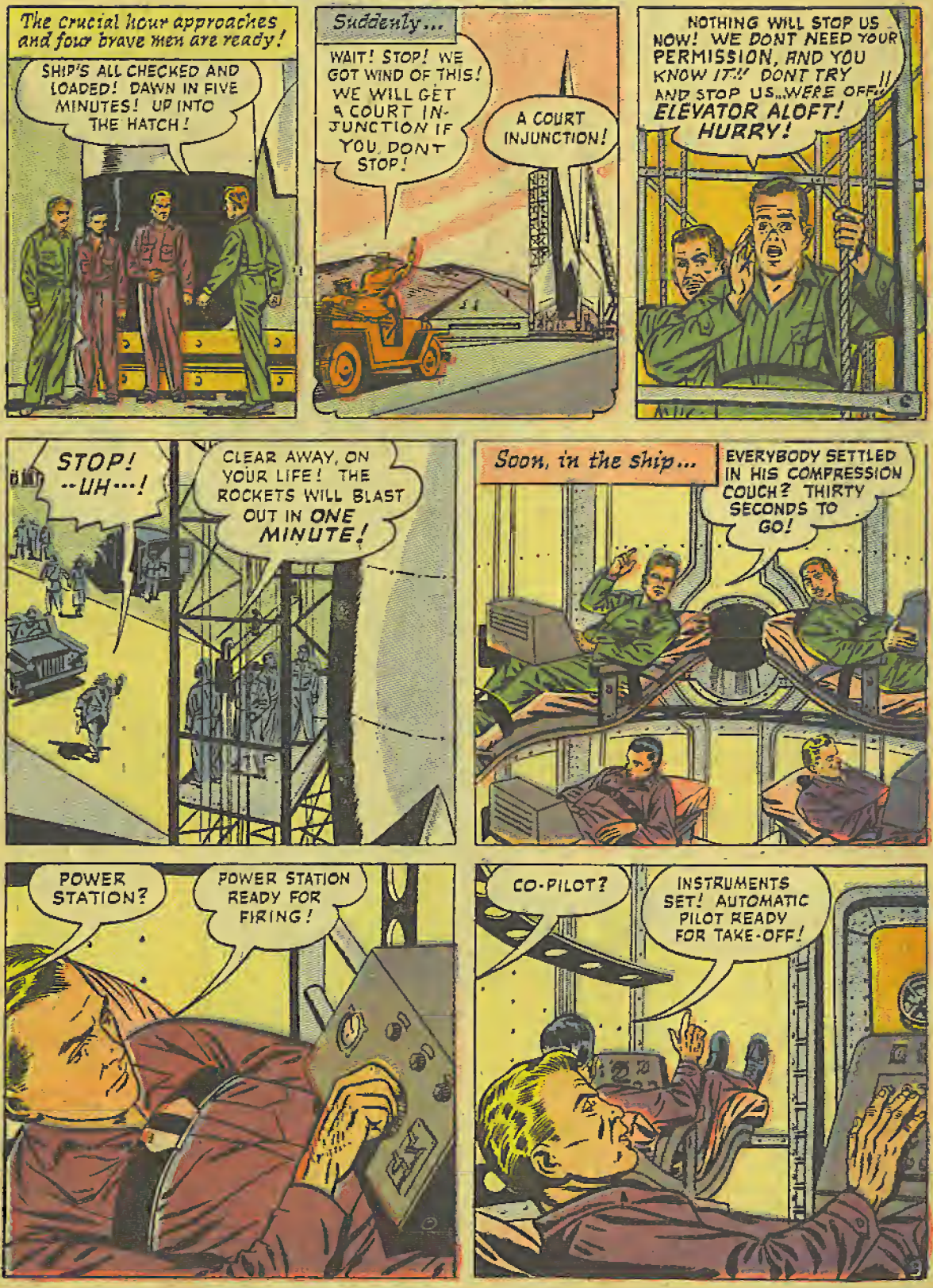
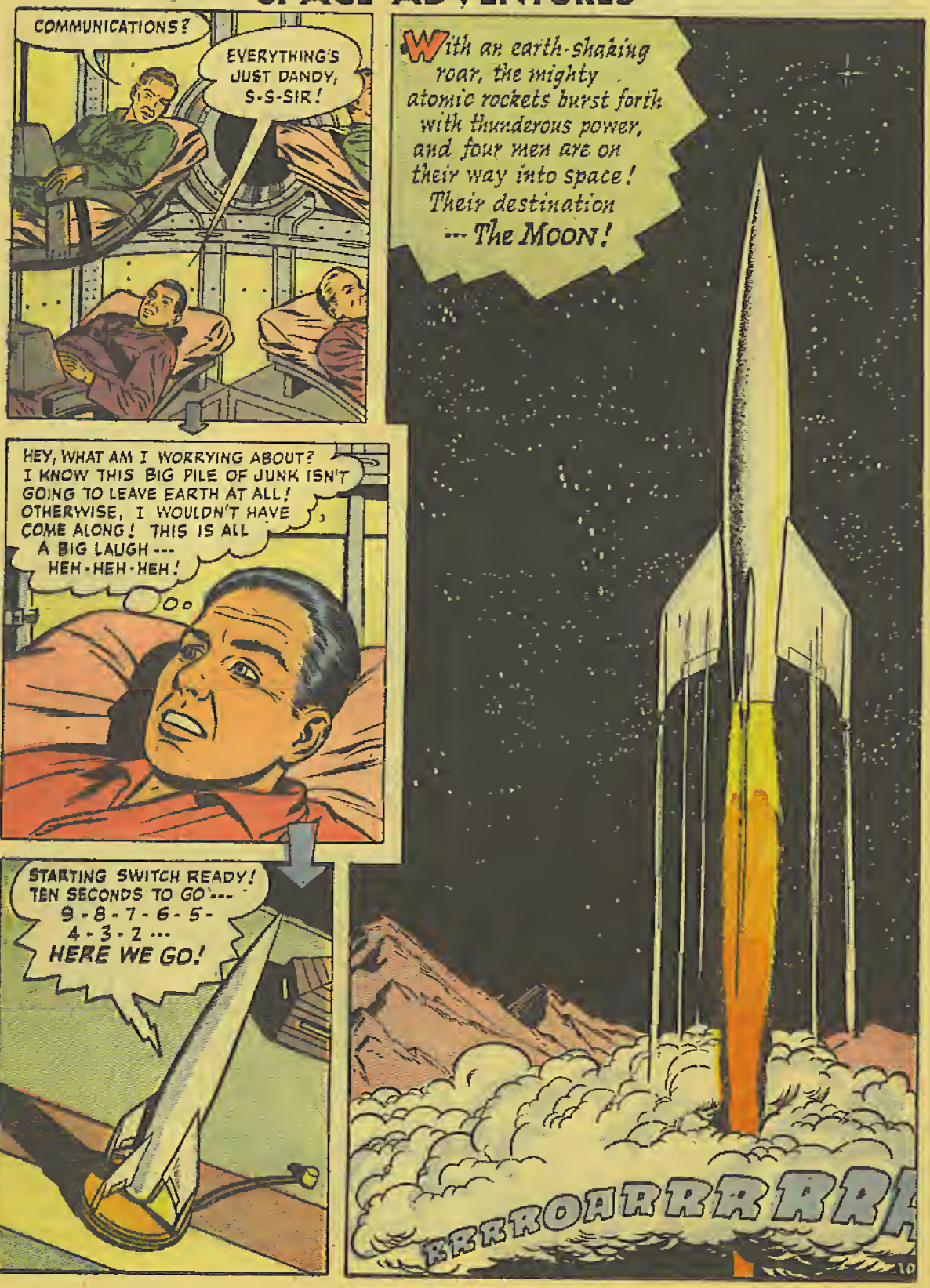


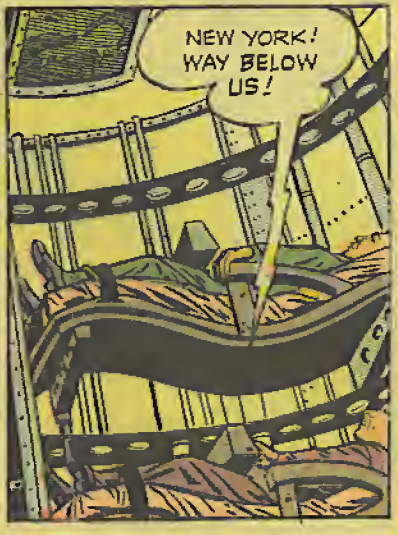

COMMUNICATIONS?
EVERYTHING'S JUST DANDY, S-S-SIR!
HEY, WHAT AM I WORRYING ABOUT? I KNOW THIS BIG PILE OF JUNK ISN'T GOING TO LEAVE EARTH AT ALL! OTHERWISE, I WOULDN'T HAVE COME ALONG! THIS IS ALL A BIG LAUGH --- HEH-HEH-HEH!
STARTING SWITCH READY! TEN SECONDS TO GO --- 9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2 ... HERE WE GO!
With an earth-shaking roar, the mighty atomic rockets burst forth with thunderous power, and four men are on their way into space! Their destination --- The MOON!
RRROARRRRRRR


GASP! WE'RE ALL UNDER TERRIFIC STRAIN DUE TO THE ENORMOUS ACCELERATION! WE EACH WEIGH ABOUT ELEVEN HUNDRED POUNDS! EVERYBODY-- GASP! -- HOLDING UP OKAY?


ALL RIGHT HERE! BUT IT FEELS LIKE THE MIDDLE OF A HURRICANE! GASP!

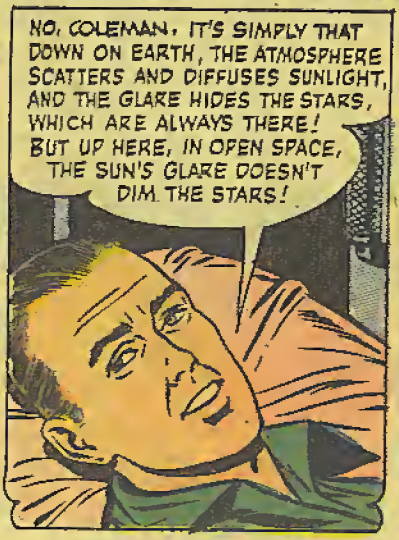

THIS PRESSURE WILL LAST ONLY THREE MINUTES AND FIFTY SECONDS! WE CAN STAND IT THAT LONG! I'M FINE! HOW ABOUT YOU, COLEMAN?


OOF! JUST LIKE HOME IN BED -- HAW! BUT WHAT'S GOING ON, FELLAS? I'LL TURN ON THE AFT VIEW TELEVISION SCREEN!


NEW YORK! WAY BELOW US!

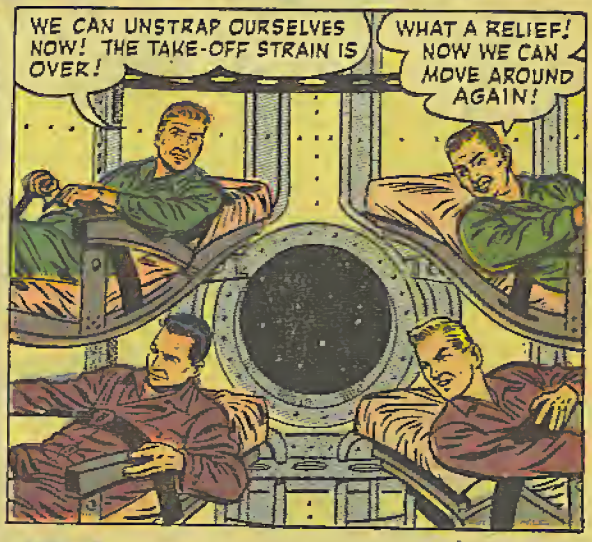

OMIGOSH! DON'T TELL ME THIS SHIP IS ACTUALLY WORKING? DON'T TELL ME WE'RE ACTUALLY LEAVING EARTH? IT'S SABOTAGE! YIPES!


HEY! THE SUN AND STARS BOTH SHINING TOGETHER -- IN THE DAYTIME! MY EYES HAVE GONE BAD!

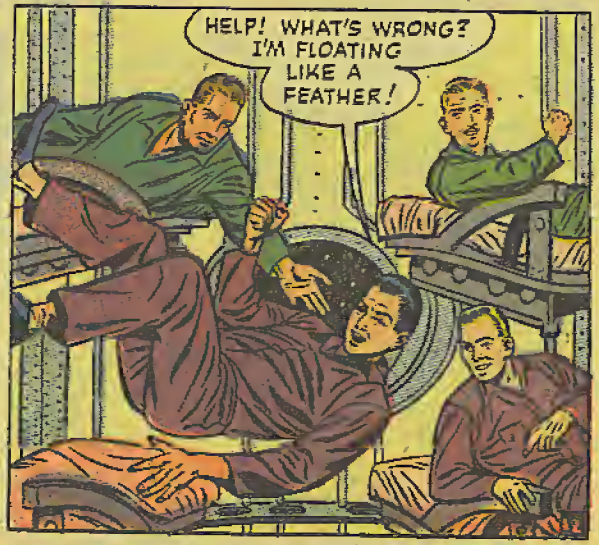

NO, COLEMAN. IT'S SIMPLY THAT DOWN ON EARTH, THE ATMOSPHERE SCATTERS AND DIFFUSES SUNLIGHT, AND THE GLARE HIDES THE STARS, WHICH ARE ALWAYS THERE! BUT UP HERE, IN OPEN SPACE, THE SUN'S GLARE DOESN'T DIM THE STARS!


AND LOOK AT THE SUN ITSELF, WITH ITS GLORIOUS CORONA AND HALO! EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE ALSO HIDES THAT, EXCEPT DURING TOTAL ECLIPSES! HERE IN SPACE YOU SEE IT ALL THE TIME!

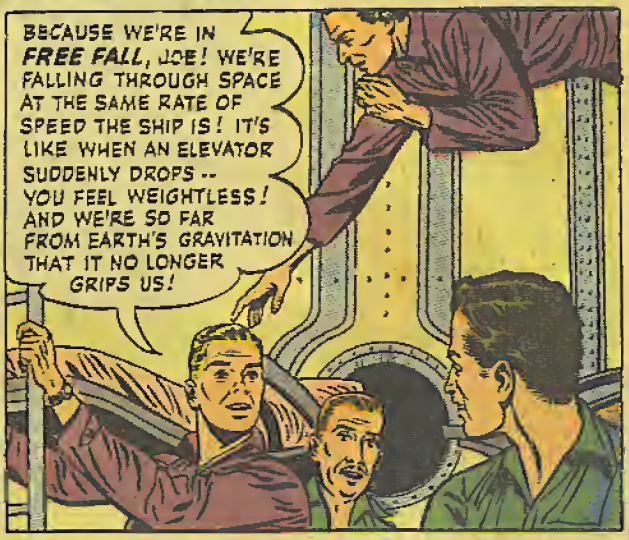

THREE MINUTES AND FIFTY SECONDS SINCE TAKE -OFF! ACCELERATION OVER! THE ROCKETS ARE CUTTING OFF NOW!


WE CAN UNSTRAP OURSELVES NOW! THE TAKE-OFF STRAIN IS OVER!
WHAT A RELIEF! NOW WE CAN MOVE AROUND AGAIN!


WAIT, JOE! TAKE IT EASY!
WHY? I'M GOING TO GET UP AND...

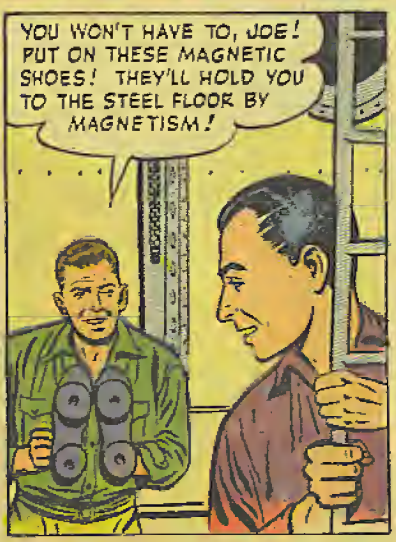

HELP! WHAT'S WRONG? I'M FLOATING LIKE A FEATHER!


WILL YOU GUYS PLEASE STOP GIVING ME THE HORSE LAUGH AND EXPLAIN WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT? WHY AM I FLOATING?
HA! HA!
CAN'T HELP LAUGHING! HAW! HAW!

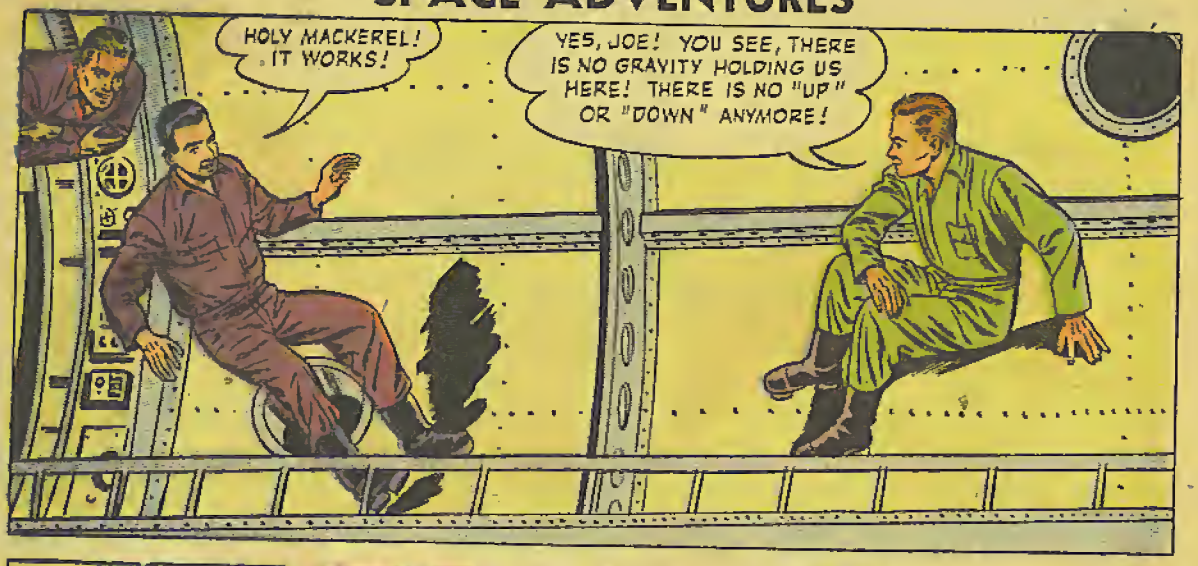

BECAUSE WE'RE IN FREE FALL, JOE! WE'RE FALLING THROUGH SPACE AT THE SAME RATE OF SPEED THE SHIP IS! IT'S LIKE WHEN AN ELEVATOR SUDDENLY DROPS -- YOU FEEL WEIGHTLESS! AND WE'RE SO FAR FROM EARTH'S GRAVITATION THAT IT NO LONGER GRIPS US!

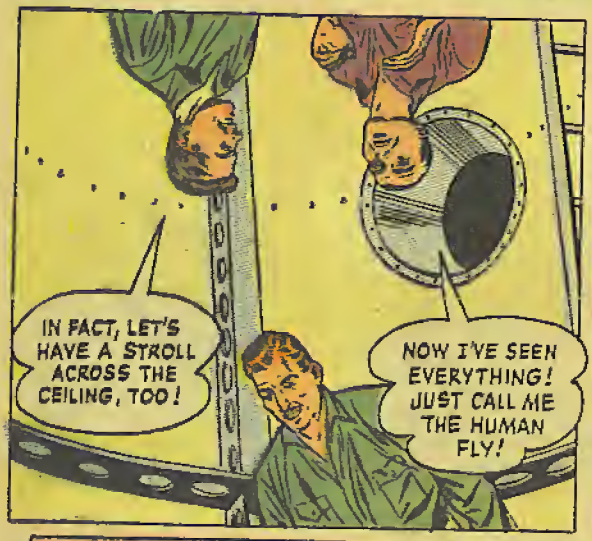

HERE! GRAB MY HAND! I'LL HAVE TO PULL YOU DOWN!
LIKE A RUNAWAY BALLOON!


THANKS! I'M GOING TO HOLD ON TIGHT AFTER THIS!


YOU WON'T HAVE TO, JOE! PUT ON THESE MAGNETIC SHOES! THEY'LL HOLD YOU TO THE STEEL FLOOR BY MAGNETISM!


AND NOT ONLY TO THE FLOOR, JOE! TAKE MY HAND! LET'S TAKE A STROLL UP THE WALL AND CEILING!
HUH? YOU MUST BE JOKING!


HOLY MACKEREL! IT WORKS!
YES, JOE! YOU SEE, THERE IS NO GRAVITY HOLDING US HERE! THERE IS NO "UP" OR "DOWN" ANYMORE!


IN FACT, LET'S HAVE A STROLL ACROSS THE CEILING, TOO!
NOW I'VE SEEN EVERYTHING! JUST CALL ME THE HUMAN FLY!

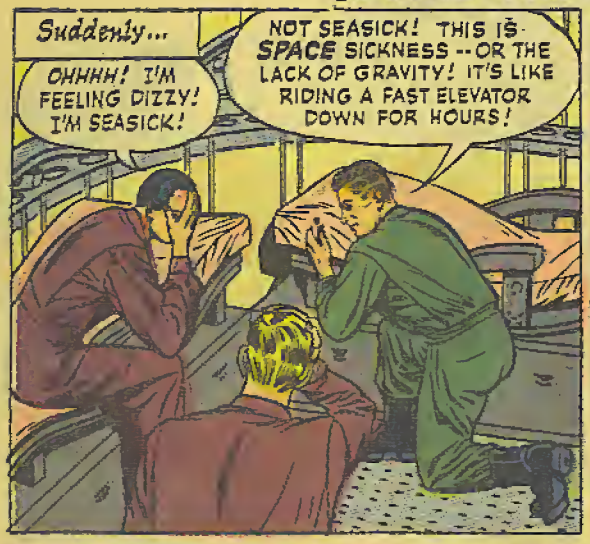

HEY! IS THAT EARTH?
YES, WE'RE OVER TWO THOUSAND MILES FROM IT NOW, ON OUR WAY TO THE MOON!


For the first time, Joe Coleman realizes the full implication of what has occurred in the past few minutes!
YOU MEAN THIS BLASTED SHIP CAN REALLY GO TO THE MOON? BUT I DON'T WANT TO GO! THANKS FOR THE RIDE, BUT LET ME OUT!


DON'T BE A FOOL, JOE! YOU HAVE TO FINISH THE TRIP NOW!
AND JUST THINK, JOE! YOU'LL BE A HERO!

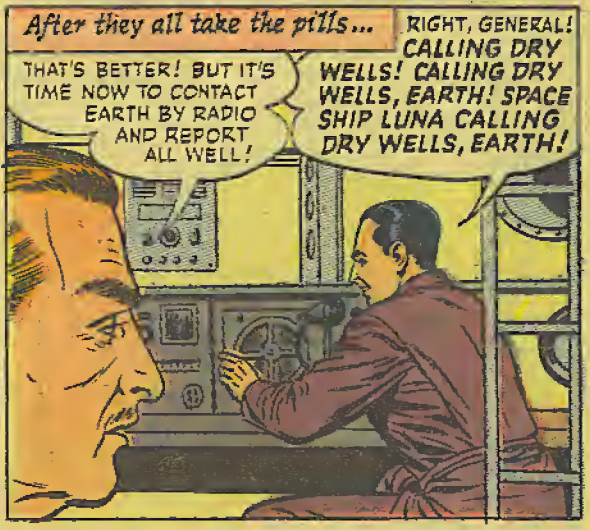

WHO ASKED TO BE A HERO? AND I HAD A DATE TONIGHT WITH A CUTE GIRL, TOO! WILL SHE BE SORE WHEN SHE HEARS I DITCHED HER JUST TO GO TO THE OLD MOON!


BUCK UP, JOE! YOU'LL BE A HERO TO ALL GIRLS WHEN YOU RETURN! RIGHT NOW, HOW ABOUT GETTING AT YOUR POST AT THE AFT-VIEW TELEVISION SCREEN?
OKAY, PROFESSOR!
LET'S TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT EARTH FROM A DISTANCE OF FIVE THOUSAND MILES!
GLORIOUS! WE CAN SEE ALL OF AMERICA, FROM ONE END TO THE OTHER! ALL THE MOUNTAINS AND LAKES AND RIVERS!
EVEN THE BIG CITIES! THERE'S LOS ANGELES, AND CHICAGO, AND NEW YORK! MAGNIFICENT!
HEY! I CAN EVEN SEE BROOKLYN! WHICH REMINDS ME--I WONDER WHAT THE SCORE IS IN TODAY'S GAME WITH THE CHICAGO CUBS?

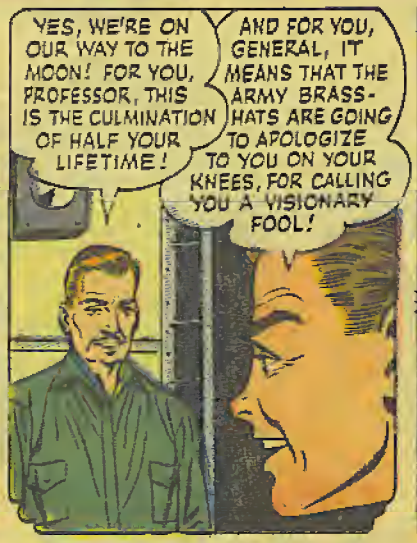

Suddenly...
OHHHH! I'M FEELING DIZZY! I'M SEASICK!
NOT SEASICK! THIS IS SPACE SICKNESS -- OR THE LACK OF GRAVITY! IT'S LIKE RIDING A FAST ELEVATOR DOWN FOR HOURS!


I HAVE SOME SPECIAL PILLS! TAKE ONE, JOE...
OOPS! MY FINGERS SLIPPED! GIVE ME ANOTHER ONE, PROFESSOR!


WHY? THIS ONE DIDN'T DROP TO THE FLOOR! NOTHING DROPS OR SPILLS DURING FREE FALL! EVERYTHING JUST FLOATS! SO TAKE IT!
WHADDYA KNOW? COULDN'T LOSE A COLLAR BUTTON IN THIS SHIP IF YOU TRIED!


After they all take the pills...
THAT'S BETTER! BUT IT'S TIME NOW TO CONTACT EARTH BY RADIO AND REPORT ALL WELL!
RIGHT, GENERAL! CALLING DRY WELLS! CALLING DRY WELLS, EARTH! SPACE SHIP LUNA CALLING DRY WELLS, EARTH!


CONTACT STATION DRY WELLS CALLING! WE HEAR YOU! IS ALL OKAY?
ROGER! TAKE-OFF AND FLIGHT PLAN ON SCHEDULE! WE'RE ON OUR WAY TO THE MOON -- UNLESS THIS IS ALL A DREAM!


YES, WE'RE ON OUR WAY TO THE MOON! FOR YOU, PROFESSOR, THIS IS THE CULMINATION OF HALF YOUR LIFETIME!
AND FOR YOU, GENERAL, IT MEANS THAT THE ARMY BRASS-HATS ARE GOING TO APOLOGIZE TO YOU ON YOUR KNEES, FOR CALLING YOU A VISIONARY FOOL!


SAY, I'M HUNGRY! HOW ABOUT OUR FIRST MEAL IN SPACE?

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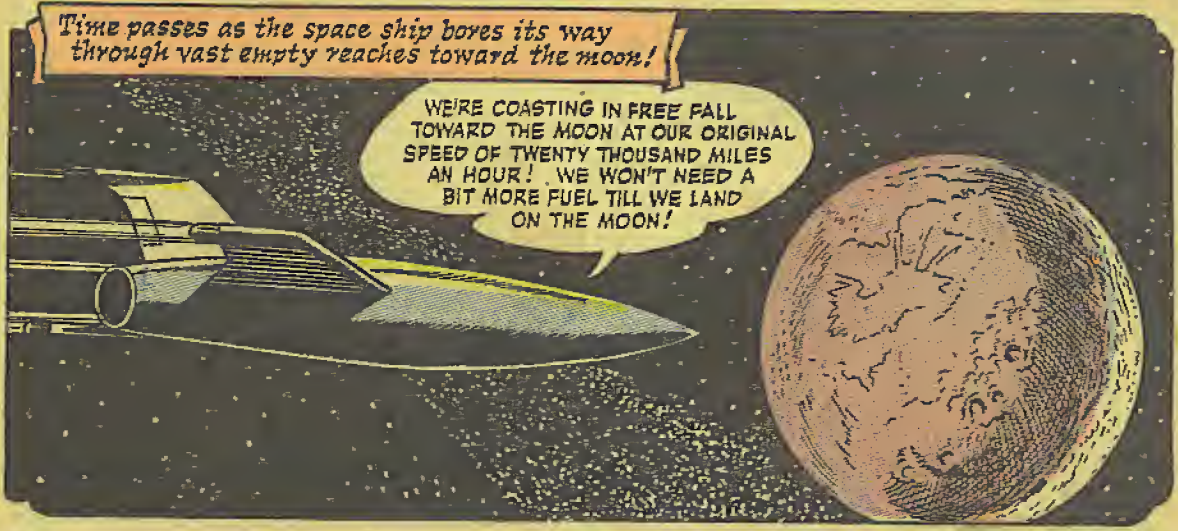

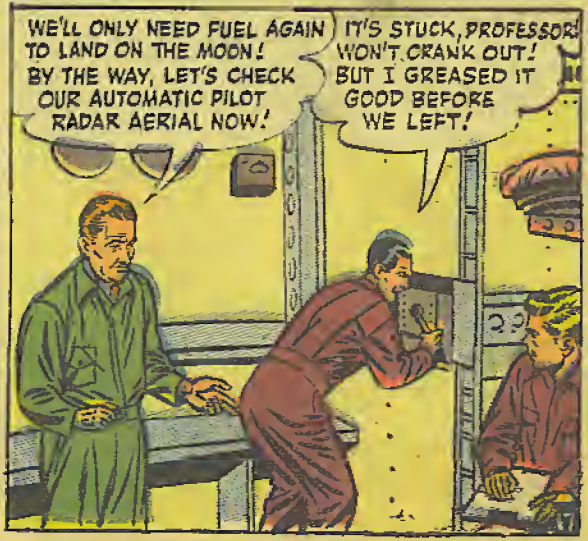

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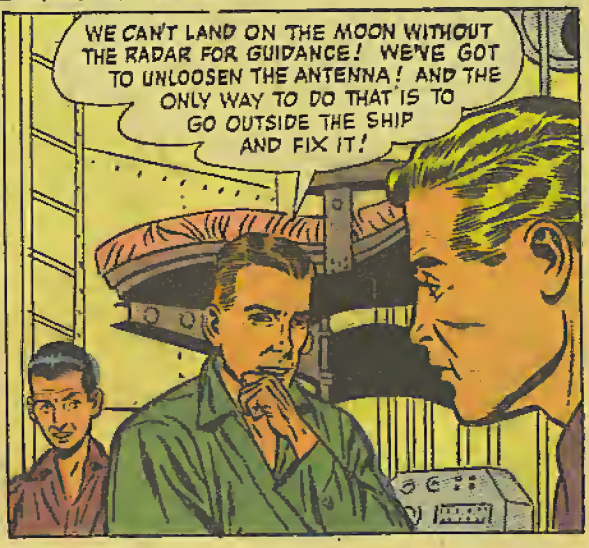



OKAY! NOW WE OPEN THE OUTER DOOR! THE AIR IN THE AIR LOCK CHAMBER NOW RUSHES OUT INTO SPACE!


AND WITHOUT AIR, NO SOUND CAN BE HEARD, OF COURSE! INTER-COM RADIOS IN YOUR HELMETS SWITCHED ON? CAN YOU HEAR ME?
OKAY, PROFESSOR!


WHADDYA KNOW? NO AIR AROUND US AT ALL! GOSH, SPACE SURE IS BLACK! AND THERE'S EARTH, FAR AWAY!


FASTEN YOUR SAFETY LINES RIGHT AWAY, MEN! EVEN THOUGH OUR MAGNETIC SHOES HOLD US DOWN, WE'RE TAKING NO CHANCES OF FLOATING OFF THROUGH SPACE!


THERE'S THE RADAR ANTENNA THAT'S STUCK! WE'LL LOOSEN IT IN A FEW MINUTES!


YOU TWO CAN FIX IT WITHOUT MY HELP! I'M GOING TO TAKE A LOOK AT THE ROCKET TUBES IN BACK TO MAKE SURE THEY'RE IN GOOD CONDITION!

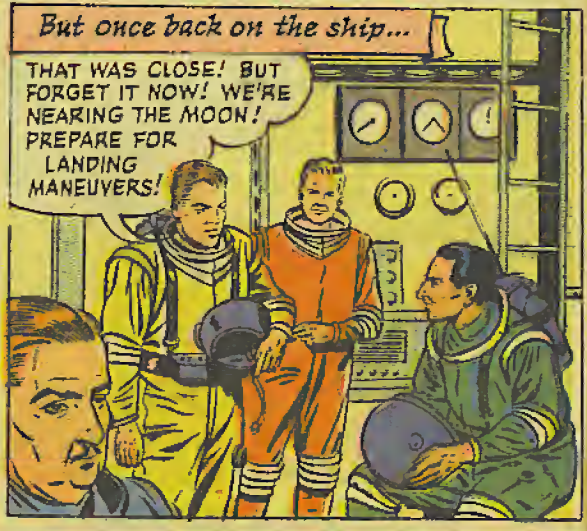

THE SAFETY LINE IS TOO SHORT TO LET ME SEE THE TUBES! WELL, MY MAGNETIC SHOES WILL HOLD ME THE REST OF THE WAY!
HMM! GUESS THE ROCKET TUBES HELD UP FINE!
I'LL RETURN NOW AND -- EH? I'M FLOATING! I FORGOT THAT WHILE I KNEELED, MY MAGNETIC SHOES LOST CONTACT WITH THE STEEL HULL!
TELEMAN! JOE! HELP! HURRY! I'M ADRIFT!
GREAT SCOTT!
HE CAN GRAB THIS LIFE-LINE --- I MISSED!
I'LL TRY AGAIN --- OMIGOSH! IT'S TOO SHORT NOW!
GOOD HEAVENS! THE PROFESSOR WILL KEEP FLOATING AWAY, SLOWLY BUT SURELY -- OUT INTO EMPTY SPACE!
WHAT A HORRIBLE WAY TO DIE -- ALONE IN SPACE! CAN'T WE DO SOMETHING TO SAVE HIM, TELEMAN?

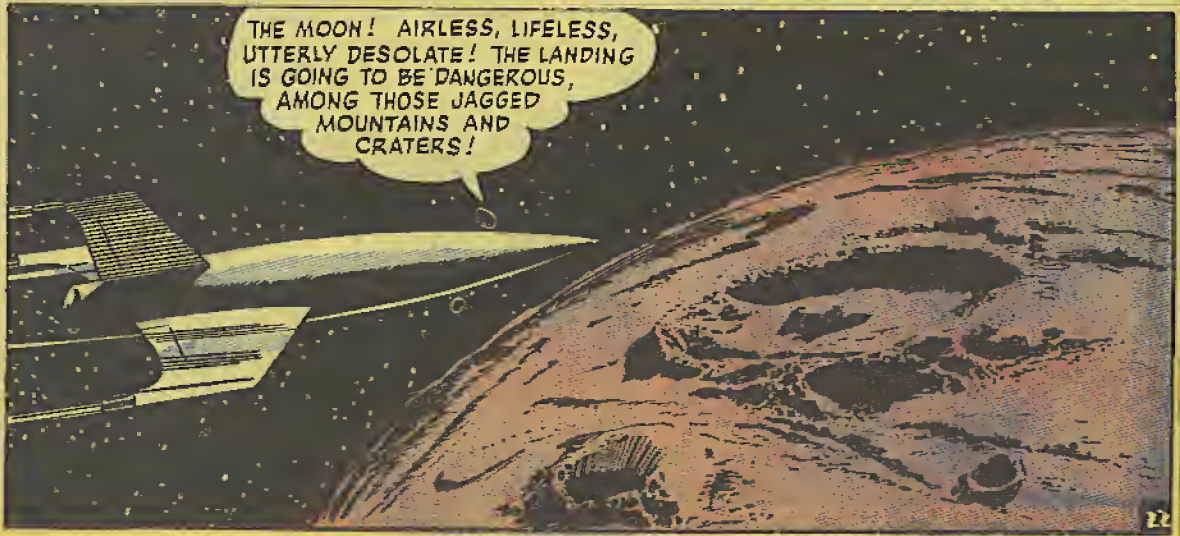

YES! THERE'S ONE HOPE! GENERAL GARSON CAN HEAR US VIA INTER-COM RADIO! GARSON! PUT ON YOUR SPACE SUIT AND BRING OUT AN OXYGEN TANK! HURRY! LIFE AND DEATH FOR THE PROFESSOR!
Soon...
HERE IT IS, TELEMAN! BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND!
HOW CAN YOU USE A TANK OF COMPRESSED OXYGEN TO SAVE THE PROFESSOR?
REMEMBER THAT DANNY THE DUCK, CARTOON, GENERAL?
HE USED A SHOTGUN AND I'M USING A JET OF OXYGEN, BUT THE SAME PRINCIPLE IS BEING USED--- RECOIL OR REACTION!
OR I'M MOSTLY LIKE A JET PLANE! THE GAS IS PUFFING OUT WITH ENOUGH FORCE TO PUSH ME ALONG, JUST LIKE JETS SHOVE A PLANE INTO THE SKY!
WONDERFUL, TELEMAN! YOUR QUICK THINKING SAVED ME BEFORE I DRIFTED TOO FAR FROM THE SHIP!
GRAB HANDS, PROFESSOR! NOW WE'LL RIDE THE OXYGEN TANK BACK!


LET'S PRAY THAT THE OXYGEN HOLDS OUT! WE'RE AIMED A LITTLE CROOKED AND IF IT STOPS, WE'LL FLOAT PAST THEM!

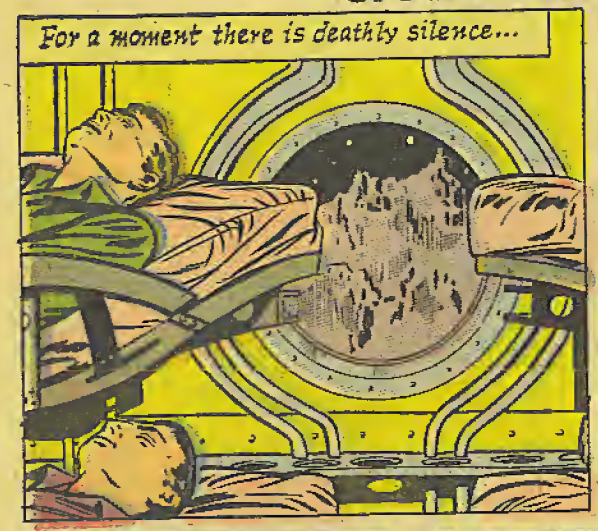

THE TANK IS EMPTY!
BUT I CAN REACH YOU NOW WITH THE ROPE! GRAB IT!

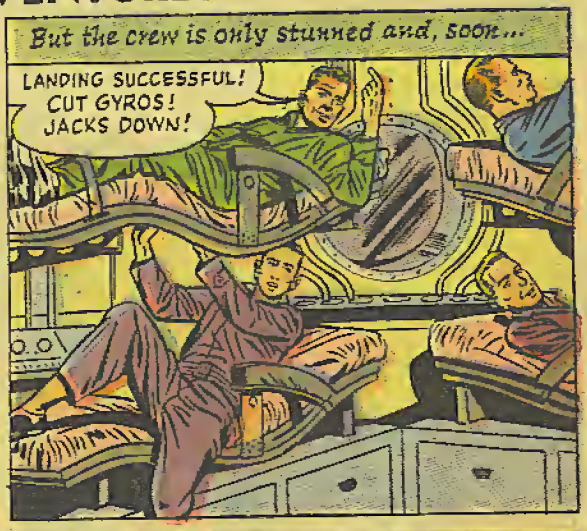

SAFE!
QUOTE -- "WHEW" --UNQUOTE!


But once back on the ship...
THAT WAS CLOSE! BUT FORGET IT NOW! WE'RE NEARING THE MOON! PREPARE FOR LANDING MANEUVERS!


THE MOON! AIRLESS, LIFELESS, UTTERLY DESOLATE! THE LANDING IS GOING TO BE DANGEROUS, AMONG THOSE JAGGED MOUNTAINS AND CRATERS!

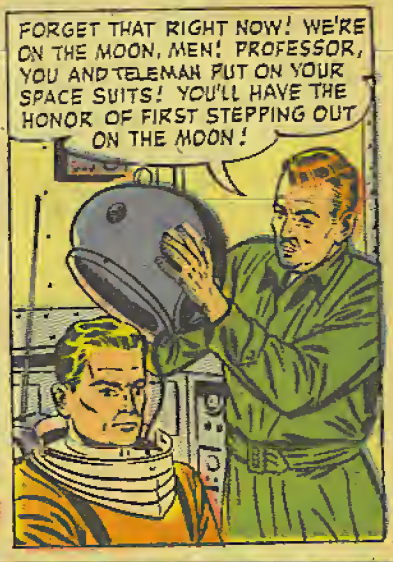

FIRST, I'LL SHIFT THE GYROSCOPE WHICH POINTED US TOWARD THE MOON DURING THE TRIP! HANG ON, EVERYBODY!
THE SHIP IS SWINGING AROUND IN A HALF CIRCLE, SO THAT THE BACK OF THE ROCKET WILL POINT TOWARD THE MOON!
OH, MY STOMACH! BUT WHY ARE WE TURNING, PROFESSOR?
SO THAT THE ROCKETS WILL ACT AS A BRAKE AND SLOW US DOWN AS WE LAND ON THE MOON! ROCKETS ON!
BOARRRRR
DECELERATION IS A STRAIN, LIKE THE TAKE-OFF WAS, BUT IT'S NOT NEARLY AS BAD! NOW ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS MISS ANY MOUNTAINS WHILE LANDING, AND FIND SOME SMOOTH AREA!
LOOK OUT --- MOUNTAINS!
WHEW! JUST MISSED 'EM!
IT'S ALL RUGGED AROUND HERE, UNLUCKILY! THE ONLY SMOOTH PLACE IS THE FLOOR OF THIS GIANT CRATER! GOT TO LAND HERE! READY FOR LANDING! IT'LL BE ROUGH!
OOF!
UGH!
OHH!
THUMP!
23

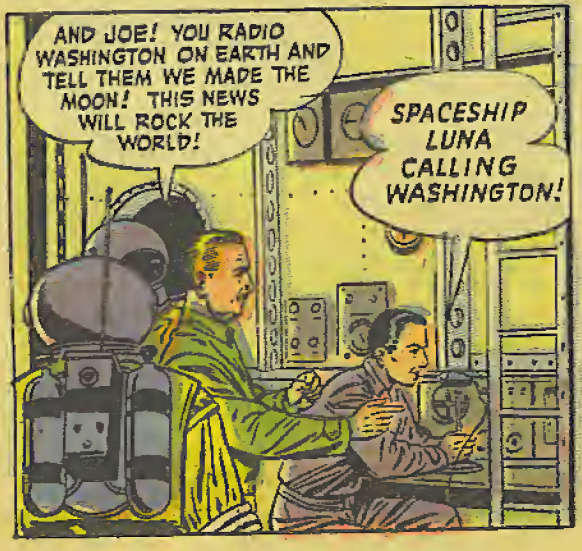

For a moment there is deathly silence...

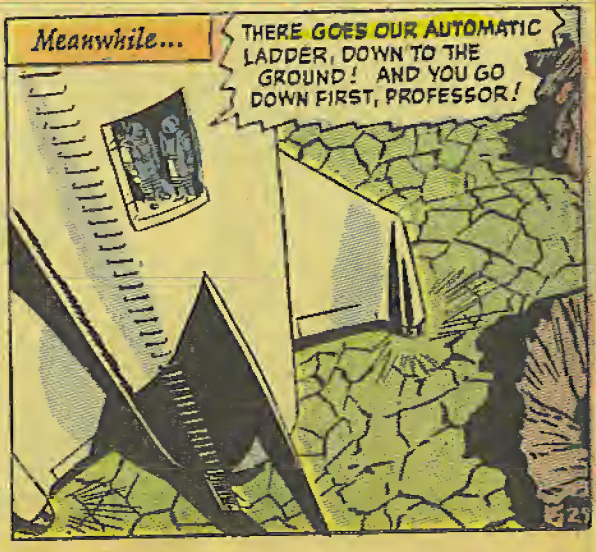

But the crew is only stunned and, soon...
LANDING SUCCESSFUL! CUT GYROS! JACKS DOWN!

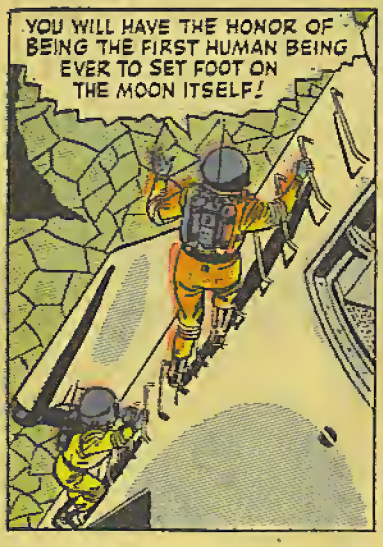

WE'RE SAFE ON THE MOON!


FINE LANDING, TELEMAN!
IT WAS A BAD ONE AND YOU KNOW IT! WE USED MORE FUEL THAN WE SHOULD HAVE! HOPE IT DIDN'T SHORT US FOR THE TAKE-OFF LATER!


FORGET THAT RIGHT NOW! WE'RE ON THE MOON, MEN! PROFESSOR, YOU AND TELEMAN PUT ON YOUR SPACE SUITS! YOU'LL HAVE THE HONOR OF FIRST STEPPING OUT ON THE MOON!


AND JOE! YOU RADIO WASHINGTON ON EARTH AND TELL THEM WE MADE THE MOON! THIS NEWS WILL ROCK THE WORLD!
SPACESHIP LUNA CALLING WASHINGTON!

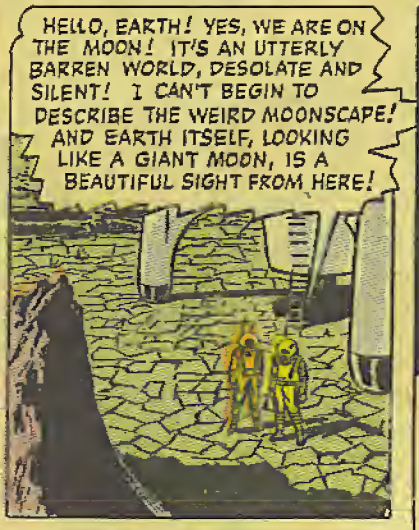

Meanwhile...
THERE GOES OUR AUTOMATIC LADDER, DOWN TO THE GROUND! AND YOU GO DOWN FIRST, PROFESSOR!


YOU WILL HAVE THE HONOR OF BEING THE FIRST HUMAN BEING EVER TO SET FOOT ON THE MOON ITSELF!

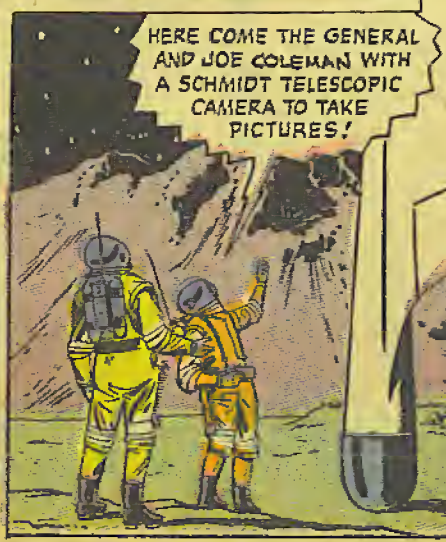

WHAT AN HONOR! JUST TO THINK THAT ALL THROUGH FUTURE HISTORY NOW, IT WILL BE SAID THAT PROFESSOR EDWIN BUSHMAN, FIRST SET FOOT ON THE MOON! THIS IS MY LIFETIME'S DREAM COME TRUE!

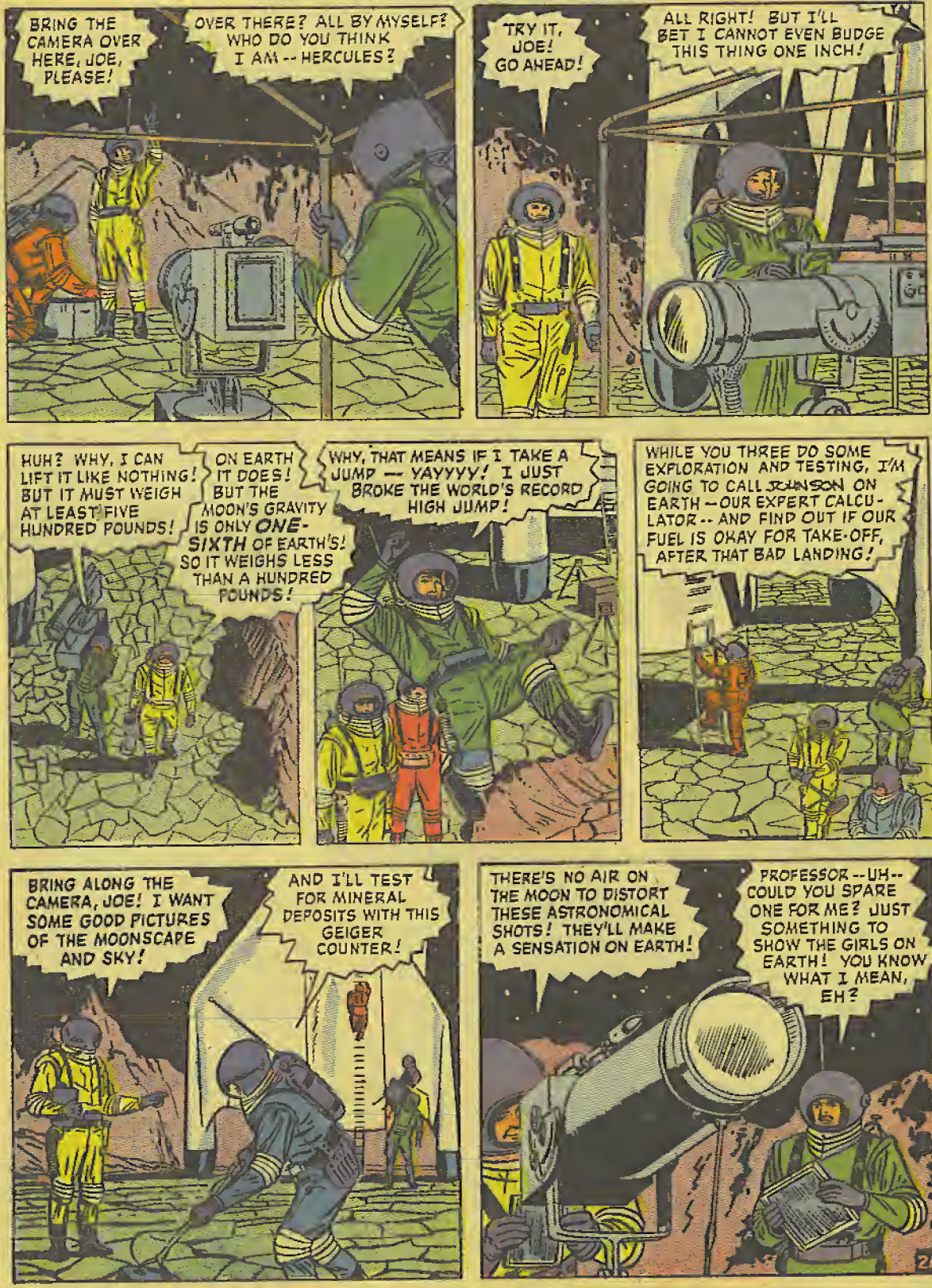

NOW, CLAIM IT, PROFESSOR, LIKE COLUMBUS CLAIMED AMERICA!
BY THE GRACE OF GOD AND IN THE NAME OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, I TAKE POSSESSION OF THIS PLANET ON BEHALF OF AND FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL MANKIND!

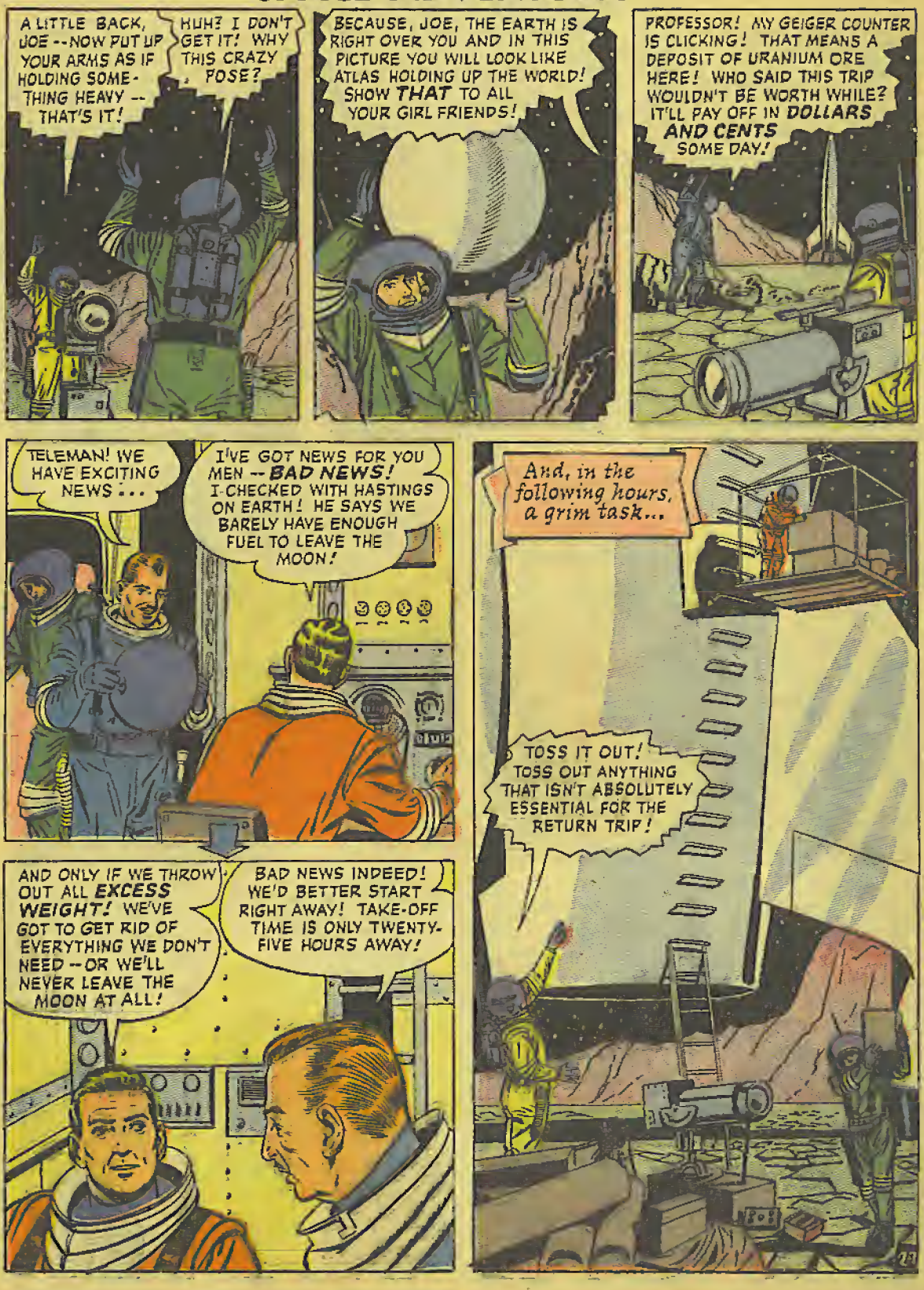

PROFESSOR! WASHINGTON CAME IN! THERE'S TERRIFIC EXCITEMENT ON EARTH! THEY'VE HOOKED UP ALL THE NETWORKS AND THEY WANT TO HEAR YOUR VOICE! GO AHEAD! I'VE HOOKED YOUR HELMET INTERCOM INTO THE CIRCUIT! ALL EARTH IS LISTENING — GO AHEAD!


HELLO, EARTH! YES, WE ARE ON THE MOON! IT'S AN UTTERLY BARREN WORLD, DESOLATE AND SILENT! I CAN'T BEGIN TO DESCRIBE THE WEIRD MOONSCAPE! AND EARTH ITSELF, LOOKING LIKE A GIANT MOON, IS A BEAUTIFUL SIGHT FROM HERE!


A WORD FROM JOE TELEMAN NOW, TOO!
I CAN'T ADD MUCH TO WHAT THE PROFESSOR SAID, EXCEPT TO SAY THIS IS THRILLING BEYOND MEASURE! BUT WE'LL SIGN OFF NOW AS WE HAVE MANY THINGS TO DO BEFORE WE LEAVE AGAIN!

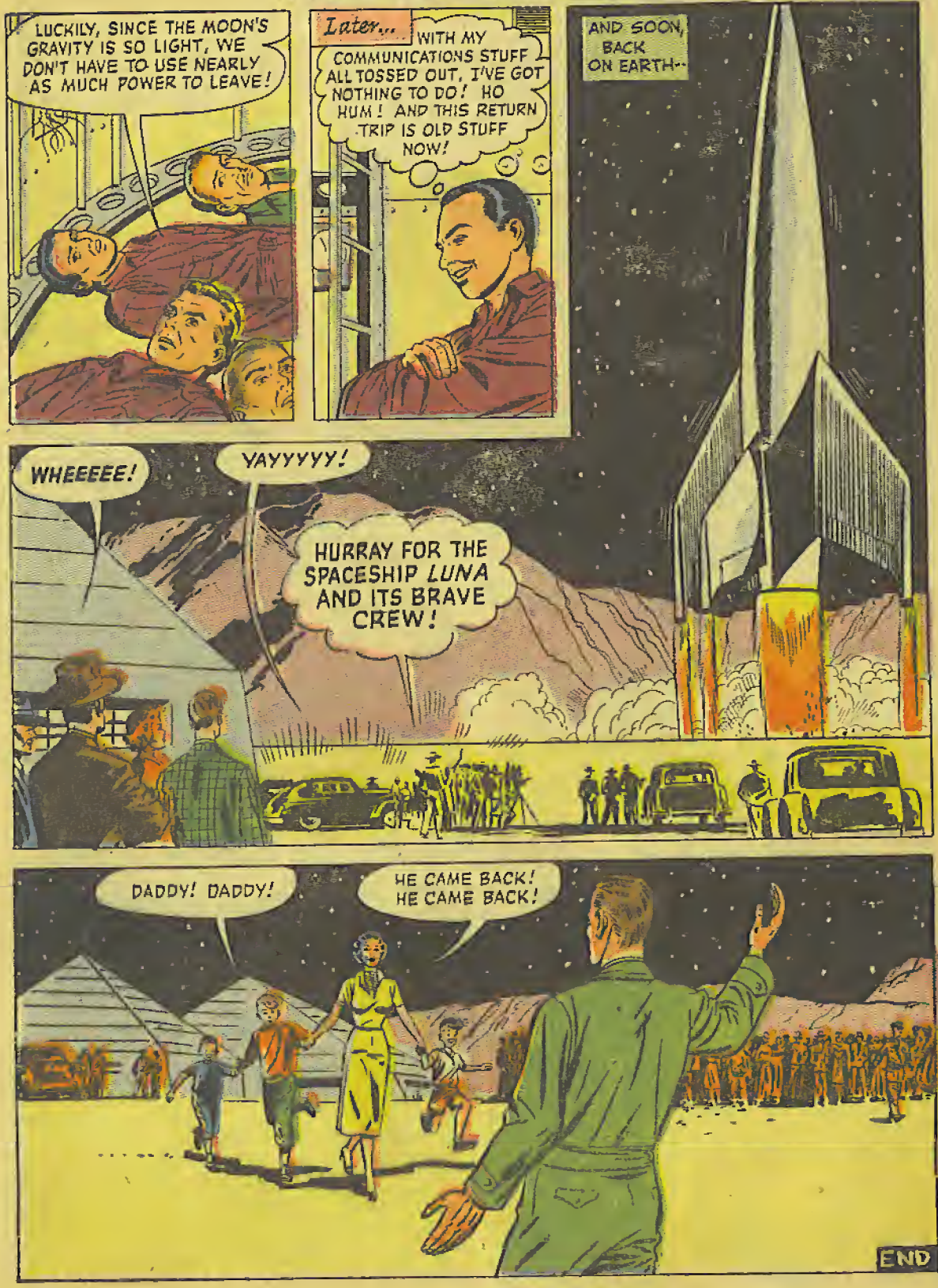

HERE COME THE GENERAL AND JOE COLEMAN WITH A SCHMIDT TELESCOPIC CAMERA TO TAKE PICTURES!


BRING THE CAMERA OVER HERE, JOE, PLEASE!
OVER THERE? ALL BY MYSELF? WHO DO YOU THINK I AM -- HERCULES?
TRY IT, JOE! GO AHEAD!
ALL RIGHT! BUT I'LL BET I CANNOT EVEN BUDGE THIS THING ONE INCH!
HUH? WHY, I CAN LIFT IT LIKE NOTHING! BUT IT MUST WEIGH AT LEAST FIVE HUNDRED POUNDS!
ON EARTH IT DOES! BUT THE MOON'S GRAVITY IS ONLY ONE-SIXTH OF EARTH'S! SO IT WEIGHS LESS THAN A HUNDRED POUNDS!
WHY, THAT MEANS IF I TAKE A JUMP — YAYYYY! I JUST BROKE THE WORLD'S RECORD HIGH JUMP!
WHILE YOU THREE DO SOME EXPLORATION AND TESTING, I'M GOING TO CALL JOHNSON ON EARTH -- OUR EXPERT CALCULATOR -- AND FIND OUT IF OUR FUEL IS OKAY FOR TAKE-OFF, AFTER THAT BAD LANDING!
BRING ALONG THE CAMERA, JOE! I WANT SOME GOOD PICTURES OF THE MOONSCAPE AND SKY!
AND I'LL TEST FOR MINERAL DEPOSITS WITH THIS GEIGER COUNTER!
THERE'S NO AIR ON THE MOON TO DISTORT THESE ASTRONOMICAL SHOTS! THEY'LL MAKE A SENSATION ON EARTH!
PROFESSOR -- UH -- COULD YOU SPARE ONE FOR ME? JUST SOMETHING TO SHOW THE GIRLS ON EARTH! YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN, EH?


A LITTLE BACK, JOE --NOW PUT UP YOUR ARMS AS IF HOLDING SOMETHING HEAVY -- THAT'S IT!
HUH? I DON'T GET IT! WHY THIS CRAZY POSE?
BECAUSE, JOE, THE EARTH IS RIGHT OVER YOU AND IN THIS PICTURE YOU WILL LOOK LIKE ATLAS HOLDING UP THE WORLD! SHOW THAT TO ALL YOUR GIRL FRIENDS!
PROFESSOR! MY GEIGER COUNTER IS CLICKING! THAT MEANS A DEPOSIT OF URANIUM ORE HERE! WHO SAID THIS TRIP WOULDN'T BE WORTH WHILE? IT'LL PAY OFF IN DOLLARS AND CENTS SOME DAY!
TELEMAN! WE HAVE EXCITING NEWS...
I'VE GOT NEWS FOR YOU MEN -- BAD NEWS! I-CHECKED WITH HASTINGS ON EARTH! HE SAYS WE BARELY HAVE ENOUGH FUEL TO LEAVE THE MOON!
AND ONLY IF WE THROW OUT ALL EXCESS WEIGHT! WE'VE GOT TO GET RID OF EVERYTHING WE DON'T NEED -- OR WE'LL NEVER LEAVE THE MOON AT ALL!
BAD NEWS INDEED! WE'D BETTER START RIGHT AWAY! TAKE-OFF TIME IS ONLY TWENTY-FIVE HOURS AWAY!
And, in the following hours, a grim task...
TOSS IT OUT! TOSS OUT ANYTHING THAT ISN'T ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL FOR THE RETURN TRIP!


But as take-off time draws near...
WE'VE THROWN OUT ALMOST TWO AND A HALF TONS OF STUFF! BUT WE HAVE TO STRIP OUT ANOTHER ONE HUNDRED TEN POUNDS-- OR WE CAN'T LEAVE THE MOON!
ONE HUNDRED TEN POUNDS? BUT GOSH, THE ONLY THING LEFT TO THROW OUT IS STUFF IN OUR POCKETS--AND THAT WON'T BE ENOUGH! WHAT'LL WE DO?
Four men look at one another with but a single dread thought!
THERE'S ONLY ONE ANSWER-- A MAN'S WEIGHT IS OVER ONE HUNDRED TEN POUNDS! ONE OF US HAS TO STAY BEHIND ON THE MOON!
IT'LL BE ME, OF COURSE! I'M THE OLDEST AND MOST USELESS...
NO, GENERAL GARSON, I'VE HAD MY GREAT MOMENT OF GLORY; DISCOVERING THE MOON! I'LL STAY!
YOU'RE BOTH WRONG! I'M THE OFFICIAL CHIEF PILOT AND SKIPPER, SO I'M IN COMMAND! I COMMAND YOU ALL TO LEAVE, WHILE I STAY BEHIND!
I OBJECT!
HOLD IT, YOU GUYS! NO SENSE QUARRELING OVER WHO'S GOING TO BE THE HERO! THE ONLY FAIR THING IS TO DRAW LOTS!
JOE IS RIGHT! WE'LL DRAW LOTS! LOSER STAYS! LET'S GO UP IN THE SHIP!
I HAD TO SEARCH FOR THESE BUTTONS TO MATCH! BUT WE'RE READY TO DRAW LOTS NOW!
WAIT! COLEMAN IS GONE! HE SNEAKED AWAY FROM THE SHIP!


COLEMAN! COME BACK!
GOODBYE, FELLAS! HAPPY TRIP HOME! JUST DO ONE THING FOR ME--REMEMBER ME TO ALL THE GIRLS--ALL THE GIRLS ON EARTH!
THE FOOL! THE GLORIOUS, WONDERFUL, HEROIC FOOL! WE TRICKED HIM INTO THE TRIP IN THE FIRST PLACE! NOW HE'S WILLING TO GIVE UP HIS LIFE TO LET US RETURN SAFELY TO EARTH! BROOKLYN CAN BE PROUD OF HIM!
WAIT! WE WON'T LET HIM STAY HERE AND DIE! I JUST FIGURED OUT A WAY TO GET US ALL SAFELY BACK TO EARTH! LISTEN, JOE! WE CAN GET ALONG WITHOUT THE RADIO AND IF WE GET RID OF YOUR SPACE SUIT AND MAGNETIC SHOES, BEFORE YOU COME BACK IN, WE'LL BE OKAY! NOW, HERE'S WHAT YOU DO...
ALL RIGHT, JOE! TOSS OUT YOUR SUIT, RADIO EQUIPMENT AND SHOES! YOU'LL BE WITHOUT AIR FOR A MINUTE OR TWO, BUT WE'LL GET YOU INSIDE BEFORE YOU SUFFOCATE! READY?
R-READY?
HE'S IN! I GUESS WE TOOK UNFAIR ADVANTAGE OF HIM -- BUT--HE'S SAFE NOW -- WE'LL NEVER FORGET WHAT YOU DID FOR US, JOE!
NOW WE CAN TAKE OFF SAFELY! HERE WE GO!
WE'RE OFF! BACK TO GOOD OLD EARTH!
RRROARRRRR!


LUCKILY, SINCE THE MOON'S GRAVITY IS SO LIGHT, WE DON'T HAVE TO USE NEARLY AS MUCH POWER TO LEAVE!
Later...
WITH MY COMMUNICATIONS STUFF ALL TOSSED OUT, I'VE GOT NOTHING TO DO! HO HUM! AND THIS RETURN TRIP IS OLD STUFF NOW!
AND SOON, BACK ON EARTH--
WHEEEEE!
YAYYYYY!
HURRAY FOR THE SPACESHIP LUNA AND ITS BRAVE CREW!
DADDY! DADDY!
HE CAME BACK! HE CAME BACK!
END

MOON VICTORY

The line forms to the right if you desire to purchase a ticket for the first flight to the moon by rocket plane. Such tickets are now being sold by the British Rocket Society. And we now accept as a fact that before this century ends, the first space ship will land on the moon. On July 29, 1955, the United States announced that it planned to launch a man-made satellite 200-300 miles into outer space. It will weigh, perhaps 100 pounds, and will travel at the speed of 18,000 miles an hour, circumnavigating the earth each ninety minutes. Yet Dr. Herman Oberth, back in the Nineteen Twenties, with the late Count Potocnic of Austria, suggested the same idea.

Of course there are many questions that you want to ask about a trip to the moon. And even more important are the questions about how all this came about. How did man get the idea of flying? How did he get the idea about rockets? And why did he pick on the Moon. Suppose we answer those last three questions and we will begin with the first one now. How did man get the idea of flying?

Man was born and still is a land animal. Using his feet he can walk and run. If he wants to go faster on land he makes use of machines which he has invented, such as the automobile or the train. If he wants to cross water he can use boats to go on the water submarines to go underneath the water, and planes to go above the water. If he can swim, then he can go through the water.

Primitive man could go on land. To some extent he could cross water on rude boats. But the birds had an advantage that he envied. They could fly across water or across land with apparent ease. Now it is simple to see how men watching a bird could start day dreaming and wishing they too could have a pair of wings. A day dream can be a waste of time or it can be very fruitful. A lot of different people looking at birds ver the centuries had the same desire to fly.

Daedalus was the architect who built the Labyrinth for the Minotaur in Crete according to ancient mythology. He incurred the displeasure of the king and was imprisoned in the Labyrinth with his son, Icarius. In order to escape, Daedalus made two pairs of wings. He warned his son to keep a middle course over the sea. If he flew too high, the sun would melt the glue and the wings would drop off. Father and son flew to freedom, but the son didn't follow the advice and flew too high.

The result was he landed into the sea and died. You can spot a scientific flaw in the story. If Icarius flew too high, ice should have formed on his wings!

There is also a bogus story about Archytes who was a scholar of Taranto. It was said that in the fourth century, B. C., that he built

a dove which could fly by means of some hidden power. But what is important in this story is the idea of making something outside of man himself that would fly.

Now we pay a visit to the thirteen century and meet Roger Bacon. He knew that water could buoy up a ship. So he suggested that air could do the same for a ship that could leave earth and go above it. He put it on paper and that was as far as he got. In the fifteenth century, a genius by the name of Leonardo da Vinci appears on the scene. He was almost everything you could name, from a painter to sculptor, from architect to engineer, and from writer to inventor. It seems that he did build model helicopters that flew. He made drawings of many of his ideas about how to build a machine that would fly.

For a dreamer who almost had the idea about a balloon, mention should be made of Francesco de Lana. He visualized a basket

that was attached to four spheres. They would be light and thin and when exhausted of the air they contained, they should float into the air. There was a terrible flaw in his theory: If you exhaust the air from a can or sphere, the sides will be forced in by the air pressure outside. But he did have something sound: The idea of a balloon. All that was needed was to fill the spheres with something lighter than air.

In 1766 an English scientist, Henry Canvendish discovered the element we call hydrogen. Now it almost looks as if we could get a ballon into the air at this time. For in 1781, Tiberius Cavallo, an Italian, filled a pig's bladder with this new mysterious gas. But alas, the bladder was too heavy, and the balloon didn't rise. And then two brothers in France, Joseph and Etienne Montgolfier noticed that the smoke from their chimney always tended to rise. They made a silk bag and burned paper underneath. The bag rose and the balloon was born! And so people started to leave the earth. First in hot air balloons and then in hydrogen filled balloons.

However it became apparent that a balloon was at the mercy of the winds. If one could attach an engine and a propellor, then the balloon should go where directed. Many worked on the idea though at the start they were handicapped by the fact that the only engine that could be used was a heavy steam engine. But in 1852 the first successful propelled balloon was flown. It was designed by a French engeneer, Henri Gifford. The first all metal balloon was built in Germany by David Schwarz. He died before it was finished and his wife continued his work. In 1897 it made its flight. Count Ferdinand Von Zeppelin and others worked on the same idea.

But there was also a different way to tackle the problem of a flying machine. Men dreamed about a rigid, non-gas machine, that would go through the air. This means you are back to the dream about wings. And such a machine is one that is heavier than air.

So we go back to the time of Louis XIV and meet a French locksmith by the name of Besnier. In 1678 he decided to build wings. He started jumping from distances and thus actually had created the glider. Others continued along the same line. Sir George Gayley started his first experiments in 1796 in England. He eventualey made a glider with a wing surface of 300 square feet. One of the greatest of all gliders was Otto Lilienthal. Between the years of 1891 and 1896 he made about two thousand gliding flights. He even had built a small motor. The day of the airplane was coming. Unfortunately he died in a crash of one of his gliders. Others continued on the idea of a motor and a glider. Samuel Langley almost made a successful plane. But credit

goes to the Wright Brothers. And from then on the airplane had come of age. What was needed could be stated simply: Better motors, better controls, and a better ship body.

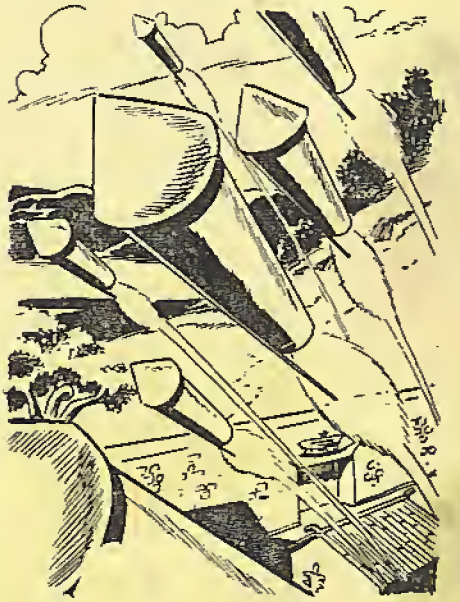
Now where did man get the idea of rockets? Our first written account goes back to the year 1232 A.D. Siege is being laid to the city of Kai-fung-fu or Pien-King and the Chinese are defending the city with "arrows of flying fire." To the best of our knowledge these were real rockets probably attached to arrows. The idea of using rockets came into Europe. Now get ready for a shocker. In the fifteenth century there lived Joanes de Fontana who was a military expert. His idea was to send rockets over to the enemy lines in various disguises. These he drew and even added a rocket car. Rockets were used in battle. But the idea of using rockets as a power also seems to have been tried in the same century by one, Wan-Hoo. He is said to have attached rockets to a chair and figured the chair would move with him in it. It wasn't exactly successful.

But rockets continued as a military weapon. The Prince of Mysore, Hyder Ali, in the eighteenth century, had a rocket corps in his army. The English navy used thousands of rockets when they attacked Copenhagen in 1807. And during the war of 1812, Francis Scott Key watched and wrote, "And the rockets' red glare . . . " It was William Cosgreve who started his war rocket experiments in 1801 that helped the British in their fighting. During the nineteenth century, many thought about airplanes going through the skies by rocket power. There were drawings made of such planes but that is as far as they went. One has to jump to the twentieth century when in 1928, Fritz Opel drove a rocket powered car at the rate of 125 miles an hour. It was dramatic and people began to talk about using rocket power.

But it took World War II to accentuate the development of the rocket as a weapon and the rocket as a motive power for planes. But the moment the rocket was used to drive a plane, the craft could go beyond our concept of an atmosphere, for it wasn't dependent upon the oxygen in the atmosphere.

Finally, why did man pick on the Moon? The Moon was important for various reasons. It helped in the calculations of rough calendars. A connection between tides and the Moon was noticed. The light of the Moon helped against a sudden enemy attack. And some people even worshipped the Moon.

Once people began to ponder about the Moon, it was only natural that some curious person might think about going there — in his imagination. Lucian of Samosata actually



wrote a story about a ship that landed on the Moon. This was a "First for the Greeks." There were others who also wrote about the Moon way before our modern Science Fiction travel stories hit the presses.

Now put them all in one unit: A plane, rockets, and the Moon as the Destination. So you better hurry up and buy your tickets for friends on the Space Stations. Good Luck to the first trip. Hope you meet some of my friends you Moon Travelers!

— THE END —